

Rep. Haley Urges Watchdog for CIA

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A Florida congressman said Sunday Congress should be prompted by events in South Viet Nam to establish a watchdog committee over the Central Intelligence Agency.

Rep. James A. Haley said in a letter to constituents, "I believe that a joint congressional committee, similar to that which keeps a legislative check on Atomic Energy Commission affairs, is a necessity."

"Proposals to establish such a watchdog group have been repeatedly pigeon-holed in Congress in the past, in the face of frantic CIA opposition. But I think Congress should be prompted by current events to establish such a committee



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now. It is not proper, indeed, it is not even safe in a democracy to have any agency clothed with vast powers over which Congress has no check.

"The need for this supervision is shown by the fact that CIA was established some years ago as a fact-finding agency — an espionage agency, if you will — but somehow has managed behind its cover of secrecy to convert itself into a policy-making organization so powerful that it can thumb its nose at the President himself."